

AMENDMENTS

CLAIMS: Add original claim 15.

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1. (Amended) An integrated, monopole reinforcement sleeve system for reinforcing monopoles in areas of stress, comprising:
at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves attachable to a monopole to reinforce the monopole at predetermined locations that are overstressed without adding new lateral stress to the monopole at the predetermined locations; and
a non-slip filler;
wherein the non-slip filler is inserted between the at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves and the monopole at the predetermined locations that are overstressed; and
the at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves are tightened around the monopole and fixed thereto by fasteners, to form an integral reinforcing sleeve system for existing monopoles to reinforce the predetermined overstressed locations and to reinforce the monopole against lateral forces acting thereon;
thereby providing integrated monopole reinforcement.
 2. (Amended) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves include corresponding flanges for fastening the at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves to the predetermined overstressed locations of the monopole [flanges of stepped monopoles].
 3. (Amended) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves are shaped to approximated the shape of the monopole surface.
 4. (Amended) The system according to Claim 3, wherein the at least one pair of

complementary hemi-sleeves have a circular shape.

5. (Amended) The system according to Claim 3, wherein the at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves have a non-circular shape.

6. (original): The system according to Claim 5, wherein the non-circular shape is a polygonal shape.

7. (Amended) The system according to Claim 3, wherein at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves are located at a predetermined, select position on the monopole for optimal reinforcement of the monopole against lateral stresses, in particular due to appurtenances attached to the monopole.

8. (Amended) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves [are]include multiple pairs of complementary hemi-sleeves positionable at different locations on the monopole.

9. (Amended) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the non-slip filler is an elastic polymer.

10. (Amended) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the non-slip filler is an elastic polymer.

11. (Amended) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the non-slip filler is selected from the group consisting of polymers, foams, adhesives, and combinations thereof.

12. (Amended) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the non-slip filler [forms an integral sleeve-snugging material-monopole]is combined with the at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves and attached to a monopole in a snug-fitting manner without gaps between the at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves and the

monopole.

13. (Amended) The system according to Claim 1, further including a mounting support incorporated into the at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves for [the] mounting [of] appurtenances to the monopole by attaching the appurtenances to the mounting support and to the corresponding at least one pair of complementary hemi-sleeves.

14. (original): The system according to Claim 13, wherein the mounting support is selected from the group consisting of supports for antennas, microwave dishes, mounting platforms, mounting brackets, transmission lines, lights, reflectors, signs, flags, and combinations thereof.

15. (withdrawn): ~~A method for the reinforcement of monopoles with an integrated reinforcement sleeve, including the steps of:~~
~~Calculating the stresses along the monopole length according to the applicable code;~~
~~identifying the locations of the monopole requiring reinforcement;~~
~~designing the sleeve required to reinforce the monopole consistent with these~~
~~calculations, including designing the thickness of the sleeve such that the maximum~~
~~utilization of the reinforced monopole does not exceeds 80%; and~~
~~installing the sleeve on the monopole at the predetermined locations; thereby providing~~
~~an integrated reinforced monopole and sleeve system.~~